Planning Inspectorate

Application by Meridian Solar Farm Limited for an order granting development consent for the Meridian Solar Farm project

Date: Wednesday 11 November 2026

Venue: Orton Suite, Orton Hall, The Village, Orton Longueville, Peterborough PE2 7DN and MS Teams

Action points

No	Party	Action	Deadline
1	Applicant	**Agenda item 3: Pylon line technical study** Submit the 'pylon line technical study' (copy this to National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET)). This should be submitted as soon as possible and by D4 at the latest.	Before D4
2	NGET	**Agenda item 3: Response to pylon line technical study** Respond to the applicant's 'pylon line technical study'.	D5
3	Applicant and NGET	**Agenda item 3: Discussions with NGET** Report on discussions between the applicant and NGET, addressing the issues raised in the hearing, including protective provisions.	D4
4	Applicant	**Agenda item 4: Strategic site selection** Update ISH 1 Note: Strategic Site Selection document [REP2-017]. This should: - reflect the changed position in respect of grid connection offer - provide a more detailed explanation of why crossing the River Welland prevents development of land beyond this - provide a more detailed explanation of the strategic level assessment of alternatives considered, including assessment of smaller plots - explain how land was favoured that was near to, or encompassed the edge of, the mapped flood zones, as stated in paragraph 6.4.7 - update Figure 5-3 (flood risk) to show the order limits	D4

No	Party	Action	Deadline
		- explain how the highest grade agricultural land was avoided, as stated in paragraph 5.5.6	
5	Applicant	**Agenda item 4: Scope of Gate 1 offer** Submit evidence that the Gate 1 offer specifies a connection at Weston Marsh substation. If possible, please provide this to NGET earlier than this.	D4
6	Lincolnshire County Council (LCC)	**Agenda item 5: Cumulative Schemes** To provide clarification as to which schemes within Appendix 4-1: List of Cumulative Schemes [APP-170] LCC wish the applicant to review for taking forward to stage 3/ 4 assessment.	D4
7	Applicant	**Agenda item 5: Landscape Character Area** Applicant to provide the area of land cover of the above ground structures of the proposed development, combined with the grid connection route relative to National Character area NCA46: The Fens and also in percentage terms; and to also provide the equivalent percentage figure for all combined solar schemes within the NCA.	D4
8	Applicant and Environment Agency (EA)	**Agenda item 6: Cesspits and groundwater** In the context that the EA has stated that siting of cesspits must avoid areas of shallow groundwater, provide a note, including comment on: - the likely groundwater levels beneath the site and whether it is possible that groundwater shallow groundwater can be avoided - what happens if the groundwater levels are high and no suitable locations are available	D4
9	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Updates to flood risk modelling** Submit a note explaining the revisions to the flood risk modelling and the implications of this.	D4
10	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Breach modelling** In respect of the EA's 'Breach of Defences Guidance', confirm why the River Welland breach modelling uses half the height of the defence rather than three quarters as recommended in the guidance.	D4
11	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Review of figures**	D4

No	Party	Action	Deadline
		Review the figures at the end of Annex B of the Flood Risk Assessment [REP1-048] and, where necessary, amend and re-issue.	
12	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Approval and enforcement of the outline Flood Emergency Response Plan** Report on consideration of how the outline Flood Emergency Response Plan [REP2-005] is most effectively approved and enforced during construction, operation and decommissioning.	D4
13	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Structural integrity of refuges** Provide an assessment of the structural capability of the refuges in a flood event.	D4
14	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Location of refuges** Provide an assessment, including a map(s), of every refuge and sub-station in a flood plain explaining how they have been located in the lowest reasonably available area of flood risk.	D4
15	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Evacuation routes** Re-issue Appendix A of the outline Flood Emergency Response Plan [REP2-005] at a larger scale with the evacuation routes more clearly marked. Provide an explanation of why these routes were selected.	D4
16	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Gotts catchment** Clarify the evacuation route(s) and procedures for Gotts catchment as set out in paragraph 3.1.7 [REP2-005].	D4
17	Applicant	**Agenda item 6**: **Inter-array area** Confirm whether the gathering point in the inter-array area coincides with a gap in the fluvial modelling shown in plate 5-2 [REP1-050] and, if so, provide an assessment of the flood risk in this area.	D4
18	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Flood Hazard Ratings** Consider incorporating the findings in the EA research papers FD2320 (Flood Risk Assessment Guidance for New Development) and FD2321 (Flood Risks to People) in the flood risk assessment.	D4
19	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Height of freeboard** Consider whether it would be more appropriate to secure a minimum height of refuges, as opposed to relying on the use of a 'typical cabin height'.	D4

No	Party	Action	Deadline
20	Applicant	**Agenda item 6: Alternatives to development in Flood Zone 3b** Provide an explanation of how alternatives to development within Flood Zone 3b within the order limits have been investigated.	D4
21	Applicant	**Agenda item 7: Worst-case visual effects** In respect of pylons, to look at limits of deviation and confirm what is the worst-case scenario in respect of residential properties	D4
22	Applicant	**Agenda item 7: Provision of an Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA)** Applicant to confirm why, as a commitment was made in the PEIR to undertake an RVAA if significant adverse effects were identified, a RVAA has not been produced.	D4
23	Applicant	**Agenda item 7: Assessment of private views** Any properties not able to be accessed from public land to be identified and confirmation to be provided as to how they have been assessed to be included in the residential visual amenity technical note.	D4
24	Applicant	**Agenda item 7: Photomontage** Applicant to prepare a Type 3 photomontage in relation to the South Holland Main Drain public right of way (Flee/8/1 or Flee/8/2) near the junction with Langary Gate Road.	D4
25	Applicant	**Agenda item 7: Application of Design Principles** Applicant to confirm how Design Principle T7 of the Electricity Transmission Design Principles (ETDP) published by the National Electricity System Operator (NESO) in June 2026 would be complied with in respect of upgraded accesses.	D4
26	Applicant	**Agenda item 7: Bund planting in the Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (OLEMP) cable sealing end compound south** Applicant to look at sheet 26 of the Outline Landscape Masterplan within the OLEMP [REP3-054] in relation to the cable sealing end compound south and to confirm the purpose of planting located on the inside of behind the bund.	D4
27	Applicant	**Agenda item 7: Solar station bund dimensions**	D4

No	Party	Action	Deadline
		Applicant to confirm the dimensions of the solar station bund which is currently referenced as being 2.3m height and max width of up to 21m.	
28	Applicant	**Agenda item 8: Liaison with South Holland Internal Drainage Board (SHIDB)** Applicant to report on discussions with SHIDB in respect of consultation regarding habitat enhancement.	D4
29	Applicant	**Agenda item 8: Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) data** Present BNG calculation data in full, as required by paragraph 4.6.7 of National Policy Statement EN-1.	D4
30	Applicant	**Agenda items 7 and 8: Landscape and environmental management** Provide details of the purpose of all landscape improvements. This should including whether these are for mitigation of visual effects, mitigation for ecological effects or biodiversity net gain. As part of this, provide a detailed explanation of the reasons for inclusion of Habitat Management Areas 2, 5 and 7.	D4